



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, March 10, 2014, 6:00 PM Clarendon School District III, District Office

Those in attendance:

Vice Chairman, W.J. Frierson, Sr.
Councilman, Billy G. Richardson
Councilman, Benton Blakely
Councilman, AC English
County Administrator, David W. Epperson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Absent: Chairman, Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.

Press in attendance: Bobby Baker, The Manning Times, Sharron Haley, Clarendon Citizen

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony
Sam Levy

Emily Luther
Hannah Watts Mikell

Andrew Jordan, Jr.

Vice Chairman Frierson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. He thanked Clarendon School District III for hosting the Council Meeting for the month of March. Councilman Blakely led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

I. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Meeting which was held on February 10, 2014 with minor corrections.

II. Proclamation

Vice Chairman Frierson read a Proclamation that was signed by Governor Nikki Haley proclaiming the month of March as Purchasing Professional Month.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to accept the Proclamation proclaiming the month of March as Purchasing Professional Month.

III. Resolution 2014-04

Mr. John Truluck, Director of Clarendon County Development Board, presented Council with a Resolution requesting authorization to apply for a loan from Santee Cooper. He stated that the Business Development Corporation (BDC) would like to build a 50,000 square foot spec building in Clarendon County Industrial Park. Mr. Truluck stated that the last spec building built by BDC was in 2006. He further stated that the spec building would cost approximately two million dollars to build and the BDC has 1.2 million on hand. Mr. Truluck continued by stating that the cost of materials have gone up so a loan is need to construct a building.

Mr. Truluck further stated that the terms of the loan would be for 7 years with 2% interest only for the first three years. He continued by stating that the loan would be for the amount of \$850,000. Mr. Truluck further stated that the terms would be hard to beat. He continued by stating that the Department of Commerce has a

grant that the BDC may qualify for. Mr. Truluck concluded his request by stating that a spec building would eliminate six months of construction time for a new company coming to Clarendon County.

Administrator Epperson stated that he felt comfortable with the terms of the loan and the request to build a spec building in Clarendon County Industrial park was voted on and approved by the Business Development Board of Directors.

On motion by Councilman Blakely, and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval giving the Business Development Corporation authorization to apply for a loan in the amount of \$850,000 at 2% interest from Santee Cooper to construct a spec building in Clarendon County Industrial Park.

V. Amendment to Ordinance 2013-07

Administrator Epperson stated that Council approved the removal of Ordinance 2013-07 from the March Agenda to amend the Ordinance for its third and final reading.

Ms. Emily Luther, Parker Poe, stated that Kent International, Inc. increased their investment amount and the additional investment qualifies the company for a Fee In Lieu of taxes. She concluded by stating that the number of jobs remain at 175.

On motion by Councilman Richardson, and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to amend Ordinance 2013-07 to include a Fee in Lieu of taxes.

VI. Ordinance 2013-07

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2013-07. An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement by and Between Clarendon County, South Carolina and Kent International, Inc., providing for a payment of a Fee In Lieu of Taxes and other matters related thereto.

VII. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, began his report by stating that the General Fund expenses as of February 28, 2014 were \$12,305,243. He stated that the County has spent 66% of the budget appropriation year to date. Mr. Anthony further stated that Revenues continue to come in stronger than it did this time last year.

Mr. Anthony continued by stating that the Water and Sewer Department had Operating Revenue of \$437,625 and total Operating Expenses of \$296,553 for the month ending February 28, 2014. He further stated that after Depreciation, Interest Expenses, and USDA Grant revenue, there was a deficit of \$12,430 leaving a Net Income of \$128,643.

Mr. Anthony stated that Weldon had a pre-scheduled show three days after the Ice Storm in which the participation was not as good as anticipated. He further stated that the Weldon Auditorium had a deficit of \$8,000 after transfers.

Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the C Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$546,670 as of January 31, 2014.

Vice Chairman Frierson asked if Clarendon County was responsible for applying asphalt on state roads that were damaged during the ice storm.

Administrator Epperson responded by stating that the decision would be the responsibility of the Clarendon County Transportation Committee. He concluded by stating that the County's portion of the C fund would not be used to repair road damaged by the ice storm.

XII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by thanking Dr. Connie Dennis and her staff for allowing County Council to meet at the District Office. He congratulated the Town of Turbeville on their 100-year anniversary and thanked them for a job well done.

Administrator Epperson continued his report by stating that the construction of the Clarendon County Courthouse is progressing. He continued by stating that there are three debris removal sites open in the county and we would evaluate this on March 30 to see if we can close the sites or allow the debris removal sites to remain open.

Administrator Epperson thanked the media for informing the citizens about the debris removal sites. He further stated that it was a tense process and he thanked Anthony Mack and his staff, the Sheriff's Office, and the Fire Department for putting their lives at risk to keep all of us safe.

Administrator Epperson further stated that we are working on the 2014/2015 budget and he stated that not all requests would be fulfilled. He stated that we would have first reading at our April 14 meeting, in addition, we would hear from our Elected and Appointed Officials.

Councilman Blakely stated that he heard complaints about the shelters.

Administer Epperson responded by stating that the shelter closed early due to lack of participation. He continued by stating that the Red Cross staffs the shelter and the County had law enforcement there as well.

Councilman Blakely stated that the shelters should be more visible because a lot of people do not know where the shelters are located.

Administrator Epperson responded by stating that the County used Social Media, the local Newspapers, and News broadcasting services to inform the citizens about the shelters.

XIII. Chairman's Report

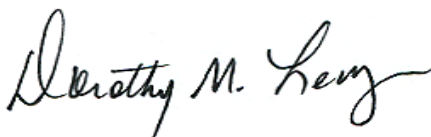
Vice Chairman Frierson began his report by stating that Chairman Stewart sent his regrets for not attending this month's Council meeting. He concluded by thanking District three for letting County Council use the Boardroom for the March meeting.

XV. Adjournment

Vice Chairman Frierson stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the council meeting. The Council Meeting ended at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

